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Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 03367 171046Z

42
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /087 W
---------- 084366
R 170934Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1403
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 3367

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, OVIP, RP
SUBJECT: MRS. MARCOS' TRAVELS AND MINDANAO

1. ACCORDING TO DAILY EXPRESS ACCOUNTS MAR 16 AND 17, BASED ON PNA REPORTS FROM MRS. MARCOS' PARTY, MRS. MARCOS LEFT CAIRO FOR LONDON THURSDAY MAR 13. ON MAR 17 SHE LEAVES FOR ALGIERS (RETURNING LONDON MAR 18) ALLEGEDLY AT ALGEIRAN INVITATION "TO CONFER WITH ALGERIAN PRESIDENT HOUARI BOUMEDIENNE ON VARIOUSL SUBJECTS, INCLUDING EXPANDED CULTURAL AND TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES." SHW WILL ALSO INFORM BOUMEDIENNE OF STEPS TAKEN BY PRESIDENT MARCOS TO ARRIVE AT PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO MINDANAO CONFLICT, AND INVITE "ANY ASSISTANCE THAT HE AND ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT MAY WISH TO EXTEND TO BRING ABOUT AN END TO MINDANAO DISPUTE." EXPRESS NOTES ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR IN LONDON HAD PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED INTEREST IN BUYING SUGAR FROM PHILIPPINES.

3. PACIFICO CASTRO, CAREER DIPLOMAT, IS BEING ASSIGNED TO ALGIERS AS FIRST PHILIPPINE AMBASSADOR TO ALGERIA.
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PAGE 02 MANILA 03367 171046Z

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

3. COMMENT: WE UNDERSTAND MRS. MARCOS WILL CONTINUE ON TO U.S. FROM LONDON.

4. GOVERNMENT IN MIDST OF PREPARING ITSELF FOR NEXT ROUND OF TALKS WITH MNLF IN JIDDA APRIL AND FOR ISLAMIC CONFERENCE CONSIDERATION OF MINDANAO PROBLEM IN CAIRO MAY. MRS. MARCOS' APPEARANCE IN CAIRO AND TARGET -OF-OPPORTUNITY STOPOVER IN ALGIERS DIRECTED TOWARD THAT END. AS PART OF THAT EFFORT GOP ALSO BEGINNING TO ESTABLISH PUBLIC BARGAINING POSITION FOR TALKS WITH MNLF. MAR 16 ALL PRESS RAN "JOINT EDITORIAL " CONDEMNING "SECESSIONISTS", OPPOSING SEVERANCE OF PHILIPPINE TER-RITORY BUT REITERATING DESIRE TO TALK IN APRIL TO HELP RESOLVE MINDANAO PROBLEM. EMBASSY WILL COMMENT IN SEPARATE MESSAGE ON SUBSTANCE OF GOP PUBLIC POSITION. SULLIVAN

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